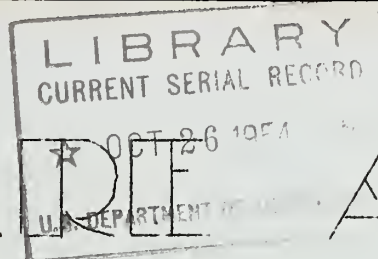


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DELAWARE ASC FARM NEWS

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June 4, 1954

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

Food trade groups throughout the country are joining with the dairy industry in an all-out sales promotion campaign for milk and other dairy products during June Dairy Month. The United States Department of Agriculture is supporting this merchandising program that encourages maximum movement of milk and other dairy products through normal channels of trade.

FOR TASTE FOR HEALTH FOR ECONOMY

fluid milk and dairy products deserve a feature position during June in every meal eaten at home or in a public eating place.

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NEW AG ENGINEER APPOINTED

William E. Larsen, of Logan, Utah, has been named instructor of agricultural engineering at the University of Delaware.

"This position will combine teaching, research, and extension work," explains Prof. Claude E. Phillips, chairman of the Department of Agronomy and Agricultural Engineering. Larsen will concentrate on a strengthened program of instruction in this subject, with part-time extension duties in working with farm machinery and structures. He will assist Byron Bondurant who is in general charge of all three phases of agricultural engineering work.

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RISE IN FARM OUTPUT

USDA Economists report more increases in the rate of farm output with fewer manhours of labor. Output per hour of farmwork this year is higher than ever—over 2 1/3 times that of 40 years ago and 3 percent higher than in 1952.

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All 1953 ACP applications for payment except those out for producers' signatures are now processed and payment should soon be forthcoming.

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4-H SHORT COURSE PROGRAM ARRANGED

Fun, fellowship and a measure of learning are in store for over 150 Delaware 4-H club boys and girls. They will attend their annual short course at the University, June 27-29.

Among the speakers will be Mr. Carrol Huston, who visited New Zealand as Maryland's International Farm Youth Exchangee; Mrs. Ruth Tybeskey, of the Philadelphia Dairy Council, who will entertain with monologues; and Francis Gallagher, director of public relations at the University, who will speak on "Your University."

MINIMUM WHEAT PRICE SUPPORT RATES FOR 1954 CROP

The Department recently released minimum wheat price support rates for Delaware. These rates may be raised (but not lowered) slightly depending on the parity price of wheat as of July 1, 1954. The minimum basic rates are the same as last year, however, a new discount of 4 cents per bushel of red winter wheat means a lower net rate to Delaware farmers. The minimum rate for #2 red winter garlicky wheat stored on the farm is \$2.25 per bushel.

GRAIN STORAGE OCCUPANCY CONTRACTS

It has been announced by USDA that applications for grain storage occupancy contracts will be accepted again to encourage the construction of additional public commercial facilities for the handling and storage of grain. It is the same program that was in effect last year with slight modifications as to type of building and material that will be acceptable under the program. Briefly, it underwrites occupancy of the storage facility by guaranteeing a specified minimum return if storage falls below certain levels. More details and applications may be obtained from county ASC offices.

FARM REAL ESTATE DECLINES IN DELAWARE

The 15-year upswing in Delaware farm-real estate values has ended and a moderate decline has set in--at least temporarily--says Dr. R. O. Bausman, agricultural economist at the University of Delaware.

Since pre-World War II, farm-real estate values here have about doubled, but during the past year have declined about two percent. "This apparently reflects the general decline in farm commodity prices and the uncertainty about future prices," the economist explains.

The two percent falling off of local farm real estate values compares with a six percent slump for the nation. Land values in the cattle areas of the Southwest and the Great Plains have dropped as much as 10 percent.

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The county committees are making plans to start determination of corn acreage soon rather than waiting until the new aerial photos are made available.

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Wheat Marketing Quota cards will be ready for delivery this month.

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CATTLE NUMBERS AND PRICES

Numbers of cattle on farms are gradually leveling off, according to Agricultural Marketing Service. Numbers rose only 1 million in 1953 -- to a record 94.7 million on January 1, 1954 -- after increasing 6 million in both 1951 and 1952. A reduction of 4 percent in the number of beef heifers on farms also indicates that the expansion in cattle is slowing down. Eastern regions are continuing to expand numbers of beef cattle more than is the West.

Present numbers provide a capacity for an unusually high level of beef production -- probably enough to keep consumption per person at a 72-76 pound annual rate. Consumption last year was 76 pounds. Average consumption in the 1930's was 53 pounds and in the 1940's 60 pounds. Cattle prices could be affected in 1954 by drought and other factors, but they are now showing signs of stability, notes AMS.

RODENT CAPACITY

Delaware Extension Service reminds us that "a single rat will eat as much as 50 pounds of grain a year." Rat control is a year-round job.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COUNTY ASC COMMITTEE

County committees and county office managers are to be congratulated on the fine work they have done in working with the farmers who planted over their wheat acreage allotment. There will be only a very few farmers who did not cooperate and use their excess acreage for green manure, pasture, or hay. Farmers usually are good cooperators when they can be shown the facts.

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Frank W. Clayton, Program Specialist, and family are on a ten-day vacation visiting with his mother and friends in Tennessee.

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RECORD CORN CARRYOVER EXPECTED

Based on developments through the first half of the marketing year, the corn carryover next October 1 is expected to total about 950 million bushels. This would be 181 million bushels larger than in 1953 and more than 100 million bushels above the record of 1950. Except for working stocks of around 150 to 200 million bushels, practically all of the carryover is expected to be under loan or owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

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FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

By: Paul W. Mitchell
Paul W. Mitchell, Chairman

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation
Courtney and Academy Streets
Newark, Delaware

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